



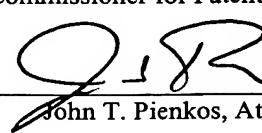
JFW

PATENT

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date set forth below as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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John T. Pienkos, Attorney of Record

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Appl. No.:	10/811,440	Confirmation No.:	--
Applicants:	Gary J. Wendt et al.		
Filed:	March 26, 2004		
TC/Art Unit:	2878		
Examiner:	--		
Docket No.:	960296.00138		
Customer No.:	--		

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**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

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Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Please amend the Statement Regarding Federally Sponsored Research Or Development section of the Specification as follows: